Dennis T. Cathey *Acting Chair* 

Jake Evans Member

James D. Kreyenbuhl *Member* 



Eric L. Barnum *Member* 

Allen Yee Member

Stefan Ritter Executive Secretary

## **Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission**

200 Piedmont Avenue SE | Suite 1416 – West Tower | Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone (404) 463-1980 | Facsimile (404) 463-1988 www.ethics.ga.gov

## November 16, 2018

Online renewal for lobbyist registrations will be conducted <u>December 1, 2018 through the last day of Session</u>. Lobbyist Processing Hours are <u>Monday-Friday 8:30AM-4:00PM</u>. We hope to make this process as smooth and easy for you as we can.

If you are a registered lobbyist and do not owe any fees, fines, penalties, or reports, you can use to the Commission's website at <a href="www.ethics.state.ga.us/efiling/default.aspx">www.ethics.state.ga.us/efiling/default.aspx</a> to renew your registration. The data you provide will determine the amount of your renewal fee. Payment may be completed electronically and lobbyist identification badges will be mailed, to those who choose this option, starting on December 8, 2017. If you choose the mail option, we will use your current picture on file. If you renew online after December 17, 2018, we cannot guarantee that you will receive your badge prior to the start of Session.

Please note that upon renewal and registration as a lobbyist you are required by law to file timely expenditure reports for each level for which you register. Failure to file timely reports can lead to substantial fines imposed by law. If you are or have been a registered lobbyist and you owe fees, fines, penalties or you have previous unfiled reports, you can use to the Commission's website at <a href="www.ethics.state.ga.us/efiling/default.aspx">www.ethics.state.ga.us/efiling/default.aspx</a> to pay the fine amounts owed and file outstanding reports. Once payment is received and processed, you can then log into your online portal and renew your registration. You may also pay amounts due in person.

## **Payment Process**

The Commission accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover credit cards for payment. **Payment must be received at the time of the application is submitted.** Please note that we cannot accept one check or credit card transaction for multiple lobbyist registration/renewal fees. Checks and Money Orders, if you do not pay online, can be mailed to our office and should be made payable to the "Campaign Finance Commission."

## **Lobbyist Badge Distribution**

During the lobbyist renewal process you have the option of having your lobbyist badge mailed to you or picking it up from our office. Please allow up to two weeks for delivery of your badge. While we do not accept submitted photos, you can use your previous photo or have a new photo taken by coming in to our office. If your badge is mailed at your request, and you then elect to pick it up at our office in person, an additional \$20.00 badge fee applies.

Finally, please remember that **local level lobbyists** are required to file reports with the Commission **AND** with the election superintendent of each county involved. If the report contains expenditures relating to county or county school district affairs, a copy of such report must be filed with the municipal clerk (or if there is not a municipal clerk, with the chief executive officer of the municipality) of each municipality involved.

Questions on the lobbyist renewal process? Email gaethics@ethics.ga.gov